
American Women Missionaries and Pioneers Collection



Part 1: Missionaries

The Irene Forsythe Hanson Papers, 1921-1980

Series I

Correspondence
(Incoming and outgoing intermixed)

Folder Description:

Correspondence,
January 1, 1929–March 3, 1929

Box Number:

1

Folder Number:

21

January 1, 1929

my first letter in 1929! Happy New Year then
I beat you saying it!! I am just aglow when
I see that date on the other side & realize that
your letter is still here. I don't see how it
could have been otherwise so I just trust the
Master to give you a patient quiet heart in
these waiting days. The post man has come
twice it is true since I started this but
not on schedule so I wasn't ready! I had it
all planned Sat. nite to write long & hard -
& have this all set for Sunday's arrival -
when so on my return from South Village
Sat P.M. here was a great pile of mail -
but I'd gone & my letter home had not. Then
there's this difficulty. There's so much to tell
you & it takes me such ages to write that
I keep waiting hoping to get it all in -
but guess I'd better cut out some & hustle
this off! At least get an envelope on the
way. Think I've enough now to fill one -
There's such a long interval to try to cover & I
can't half picture to you these full days -
today has been a 13½ hr. one with practically
no rests or stops - except to eat - just brim
full of joy & full of His presence & blessing
to us & see surely trust blessings to others!
Dearest ones, love & love -
Next letter I'll tell about Christmas & New Year -
Master keep you true



wife & two kiddies got as
for as their door & there
wife died - & kiddies
one almost dead -
She says she has
to help them as it

is better for the man to earn a bit so she
send's him patting up the 20 li whenever I
want anything. Makes it nice. I like so nice
& insists on my telling her & Miss Strunk,
who send up cake & jelly, whenever I want
anything. She show Master provides &
leads!

Someone just shot a gun - I like ant
most settled place in the world [Because of
Japan's keeping the 20 li on each side of R.R.
Chinese soldiers can't enter to get bandits &
Japan sells them ammunition - so - -] I
It's not so much real trouble as suspicion
We don't go out nites - If dogs bark
the hired man here fixes a gun, & next
house maybe hears them fire - so they fire.
I was startled at first till I understood.
I never fear. One of the cook said he slept with
his clothes on because he was afraid lest
there's nothing to fear! When we're in center
of it all nothing can harm without his
permission. If with his permission I'll
provide for me rest! - good nite for tonight
don't loved ones!!!

1 Iri Yang Road
Tsingtao, Shantung
January 30, 1929

My dearest Loved Ones!

Well, you've had a test for sure this time on waiting for letters. I surely am sorry but it seems just to have been unavoidable. I'm especially sorry because of your sickness + all you've had to think of besides wondering about me. I came back last Saturday - those last two busy busy weeks I couldn't write + the mail man didn't come on schedule. He came once but I wasn't ready with a letter so it goes! Then I could spend all night telling how things have interrupted and delayed since my return but I know that's of small interest really, so I'll just hasten to try to fill up the gap of the weeks. It is already 9:30 + I had planned to have a long evening to write - The cook has just gone from having his time to read + pray - matter he always remembers you + these days since he knows of the illness he especially prays that you'll be well tho he includes all of you. He always remembers the "The venerable wife"

2] Today I finished my report of these six weeks in country. I'll not enclose it this ~~time~~ as I'll see I may get it printed here instead of troubling everyone there. But pictures aren't printed yet so I hope soon to be able to send them to you. I won't tell so much of that as to answer all the pile of letters that have come. First, Pops: the dear heavenly Father for clearing Winfield's prayer + restoring all of you to health + strength! I was alarmed for a few minutes over all of you but I was at peace. I first read the postcard + then your letter ^{written first} telling about all the sickness. I felt sure I'd have had a cable if they were worse so just rested in that peace; in the same mail tho I didn't open it til a couple of days later was the note in the Independent on front page that date was Dec 13 + your card Dec 8, doctors improving. That made me happy indeed. The first news of the illness came on the day of a big meeting held partly in my honor - one at which I had to speak - but I just went on happy that He was above + thru all no matter what. Think how sweet that in those days when I couldn't possibly

3) help you I was kept in peace + en-
abled to go on with the work for
him and life was with you! in a
most wonderful way! You were surely
fortunate to have the good nurses
+ good care. How grateful I am
for them + that you were where
you'd have good care. How thankful
I am to him for all of your lives!
my dearest sister honey, you've had
a long hard time - may this presence
be very sweet in the recuperating
days + bring a new strength + an
^{over}clear vision of him in the
quiet days! How much easier to be
grateful for! Was the flu so bad
as before. I've had so many letters
saying "we're just getting over the flu"
etc. In Nov. 12, letter you asked about
post cards. I could use them if fixed
as the Woodburn girls fix them. I've
used all they sent before + a number
of the new package which just came.
I wonder if they're worth the effort some
times but each time they seem to
appreciate them. I think I can use
some more. Glad Uncle Alma + Uncle Rob
are better!! Have they gone thru Roseburg
yet? It was nice you met Miss
Abrams. The report has most of the
details of Christmas day in it - but
oh! I want to tell about your
boxes etc! My! how I loved them

4] every one. See, this nurse in Lima found the packages at the postoffice and this famine refugee whom we jokingly called "mercury" - (the old Greek mythical messenger of the gods) He was anything but light & dainty & fleet of foot but he plugged along & brought me great cheer I assure you. He came with a big packages - either six or seven packages in it! I had not finished my dinner but I tell you I didn't wait to either - where shall I begin? Matter, I never tasted such cake - where did you get that receipt you never made that kind before! It came in just perfect shape. The box wasn't dented even - who made the box - my that was trouble to get a box made & sealed & all!! The cake was so moist. I think the marching cherries were the secret! of some of it. The frosting was hard & almost all off - but very good as candy - Really, I do think it was one of finest cakes I ever have tasted. Have had pieces of two others - just the ordinary fruit cake & oh they couldn't compare with it. Thank you so dear - all the boxes were duty free. As I said I'd not finished eating - when they came - well, Mrs Chow came pretty soon so we called my teacher & had a piece with coffee

5] they too enjoyed it. I had such
fun dividing it. Sent a piece to the
elder in whose home I lived + to Mr
Li's family in South village + Miss
Chais family. On Saturday P. M. the
Christian girls in choir came to pre-
pare for Sunday - so we had tea +
cake for them. On New Year's Day a
group who hadn't tasted it each had
a bit. I wish ^{could} you^{all} have seen
them enjoy it. Because of such a
big snow the South village class
couldn't come as planned real
early to wish me "Happy New Year" -
Snow or rain spoils the doll sales
and tops - so I took the remain-
ing piece - all too small + some of
the delicious chocolates from Mr.
Morkberger + we divided up with
that group - each one a little taste.
They all thanked me + for you
+ sent their regards + most sincere
appreciation to you. I do believe
almost all the class members had a
taste. My little heathen girls were
so dear - they thank you too so
much! Eula, what a nice box of
"needs" + "wants" all useful + so
sweet of you to "spend heart like
that. I was amused at your indulg-
ing my weakness. sending perfume. I
was just ^{about} out of Molly's contribution
I can't for world place the Mrs Ash-
craft whose picture was in the
perfume. A pres. minister's wife but

4) who + where, I needed soap +
powder + the tooth paste etc so
much. Thank you. I presume Miss
Abram suggested those things. They are
so high to buy out here, the supporters
I'll treasure! Thank you all so for the
love + thoughtfulness + sweetness!
Sarah sent a nice apron - with bally
in the box. Marie a box of mis-
"needles", Light beavers also a box of
those luscious chocolates! um! Mrs.
Bell in Portland books - "Beke" The
Reader's Digest again + Julia another
nice silk shirt! I surely did have
a happy Christmas. My! then yester-
day's mail brought Bessie's package
of beautiful rose and Morgie's picture.
I was studying when it came + it
drove all desire you soon over character
concerns from my mind! I had managed
to keep from domesticities thru all
these letters of love + home + friends
but one look at Morgie's picture just
almost derailed me over. She has changed
so much. Only her little fat hands
a like her baby days! She is darling
+ surely adorable. That picture is
so good. She has eyes like Bud's -
I guess her nose is getting like Bessie's
That sweet smile - she is just so
sweet - how she's grown - of course
this is a close-up - but I'll bet
her chime dress is too little! I just
am continually being shocked at the

7] way these kiddies changes grow up!
I can't seem to conceive them - except as
I last saw them, wonder if that's a
sign of old age? I tell you you'll
have to keep me supplied in
pictures so I can keep up - -

Thank you for sending Marquette's
letter, I was so glad to hear! She didn't
say but she's engaged to a moody man
also going to Africa. Richard, sweet-
heart were you studying about Africa
& the houses they live in when you drew
such a nice picture for me? That

was so sweet of you & Winfield to
write to me, Winfield your pictures
were good too, I especially liked the
football game & Richard since you
sent me a boat to come home on I
will be sure to come! You both
write very well and Grandma says
you read well too. I am very proud
of you & would so love to see you.
Do you still read Uncle Wiggley
Stories?

Mother I'm so sorry you were troubled
with my packages when you weren't
well! I do wish I had more time &
with my letters! It's too much for you,
I had such a long letter from Little
she too told me about the expected

8] summer vacation. That will be fine!
The master surely is giving them every
chance to be won thru blessings! I'm
glad - but oh I wish they'd come to
him! You needn't ^{have} worried about
the omitting the 1 on my address.
It was all right. In other, dear I feel
you ought not send me money
I feel like returning this fine ^{box} &
I know you'll have need for it
with your nurse's bills etc. - Do
not worry about my money dearest
sweetest missie mine. I have my
and had no duty to pay at all.
Yes, I can use the S.S. calls. I have
^{a.3. proper pictures} too, but that is all. We find all
such things helpful. Thank you for
putting in Mrs. Warner's letter. I rec'd
Mrs. Warner's package + lovely box of
soap from Marshall Field's with a
nice pair of gloves on top. She's so
sweet to remember me. I'll write
her ^{as} soon as report can be enclosed.
Bless your heart honey, to write so
often even in your sickness. I feel
doubly guilty that you've gotten so
few letters from me this month.
The 16th. letter + the one on Christmas
day all are here + I have been so
grateful for news of you all. How
I praise Him! for His keeping at

9 | you all + his love. Glad the
flowers had no duty. You didn't
say about the other box was there
duty on it? Are the hats the right
size for the boys to play with +
wear? I still feel sorry about
burdening you with packages when
you're so busy + not well! Eula
is probably up by now -

That was so nice that you had
the turkey, + cake + pudding all
prepared + such a nice Christmas
was Eula able to be up for that
day? I think the man who gives
the turkey is to be commended!!
I am so glad you had such a
happy day.

Mon. after 2 hrs. study. Lost nite.
I got so sleepy at 11:30 I had to
stop. am a bit weary from the
country trip + this full week of
folks here. - so your letter is
still here. Miss C. + W. came in with
me + this time had meals here - also
a girl came in to the hospital
+ I've spent parts of several
of several days going with her to the
doctor's. Then Sat. eve. a number
of (5) folks and a little girl and

10] route to Chefoo stayed over
night & Sunday here. I was glad
to have an empty place for them
to stay,

Mother, all the friends who had a
part of the cake bowed to me
and asked me to thank you
for them. At the big farewell
meeting, when very many polite
& appreciative words were spoken
(that sentence sounds so funny because
I thought it first in Chinese so
it didn't translate well - tho
it is hard on my English its a
great blessing even occasionally
to spontaneously think in Chinese)

Deacon Wang was the spokesman
and at the end he bowed most
deeply & asked me to convey to
my most worthy & honorable family
their greetings and wish you peace.

That meeting was most interesting
The Chinese surely know how to
honor one - maybe part is just
for "face" - but even if nothing
is sincere, it surely know how
to treat one hospitably,

We are in search now for a
woman to live with us here.



Isington
Saturday Eve.
February 2, 1929

my dearest Loved Ones!

Again I am a delinquent daughter - may be its becoming habitual but I hope not. So be sure tho this gets off I shall begin it tonight - & finish tomorrow I hope. Have just finished making a cake! Everyone in a while I get such a desire & nothing will satisfy me but getting in the kitchen & first washing here & cleaning there - I'll have to confess my kitchen isn't always an example of shining brightness. So I enter it once in a while to superintend its cleaning. Maybe if I entered oftener it would be better - well such are details of housekeeping but I have a fair cake - not perfect at all. Took some over to Mrs. Davies for supper - told her its only recommendation was that it was fresh. - I hope it won't make them sick - at least!!

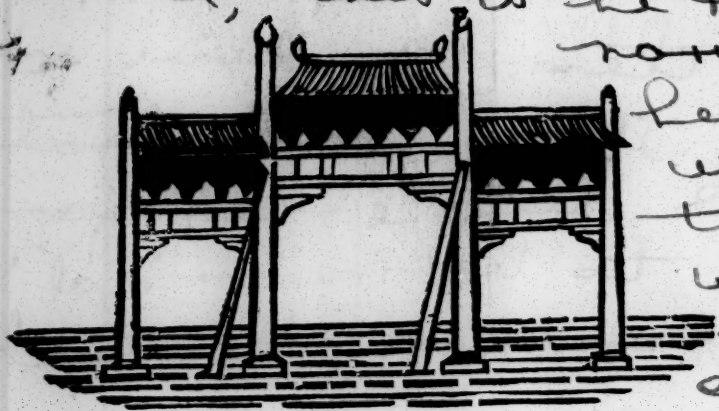
Speaking of Kitchens tonight all over China Christians too ^{as they} are fixing fire-crackers & celebrating the beginning of New Year's festival, but in Non-Christian homes it is tonight that the Kitchen god ascends to heaven. They take the picture ^{affixing} that's been up all year & after putting ^{up} ~~up~~ ^{on} his mouth they burn him. He goes to heaven to report to the peevish Emperor.

2) all the doing of the family whether good or bad! The syrup is to stick his mouth together so he can't talk when he gets there & then paper & incense are burned. There is a steady booming! Booming as I write, Somehow we missed the white candy today but the teacher said there were sellers everywhere. It is made only on this day & all eat it tonight in connection with the fasting in connection with Srao-tzu - the Kitchen god's ascent.

This morning was my first chance to go thru all my Christmas mail & make the mailing list for this report & answer a few letters & some business letters. How full & busy these days are! I spend many hours studying but still don't feel I've really accomplished what I want to. I leave after a trip downtown & making the cake etc - its supper time & late -

Last week end had another Chinese guest a girl whom we met a Huang Sil Lou up in the mountains. a teacher & former Bible woman. She was on her way with her brother to the home of her husband-to-be to be married. Fortunately there was a bed in Miss Chau's room so she could sleep here. She came a few days early to finish the shopping and then with her boxes of ~~her~~ wedding things left her early Sat. a.m. It was quite interesting too - the man has had a wife & baby both died. He is a minister - oh, I told you of getting out of the bus to look over a bridegroom -

3, well, this is he + now they married. Ordinarily he'd go to get her + take her to his home but this was too far several days trip so she went alone with her brother. She'd been so busy + excited her face all broke out with some



kind of rash - but I had a little medicine which helped hurry its natural clearing up so she was much relieved. I was glad too because crowds gather after a wedding to see the new bride + no feeling of fear of hurting her feelings restrains the frank remarks about whether she is pretty or not!

For over two weeks no American mail, then this morning some came. Others have had none so I think boats must be delayed by storm maybe. Eva had never rec'd her mother's letters about their Christmas etc but I am more fortunate in that respect. Mrs. Brodie's note + Aurora's and's letter + a check came this a.m. Mrs. B. says Winfield is almost well + Lula gaining strength! I just praise the Master for them + his giving them to us for longer time.

Well, the amah has been here a week. She's nice - not a Christian - I mean not baptized but she believes. It helps some to have her here but she's not very fast with her work. Miss Liu will go this Monday for a week so I'll be very glad to have her here. Her two children 8-11 - boy + girl keep house for themselves at Wuhshien as she has no people. She

4) asked me last night to bring them here but we've no place for them to live ~~at all~~ so there's no other way. The cook's brother is here doing his work while he's gone home over New Year and to be married. This has been the occasion he's talked of & we've stayed for for days - he says there's no Christians in his village one of 900 family clans. We got him off on Saturday & he took a pack of tracts and gospels & was so elated over his going. His letter came yesterday saying he'd preached to one man on the boat who believed. At home he's gotten two little groups of children (21 in all) to come daily to teach them. It surely made my heart happy to read that because it shows he's sincere in his belief. I just praise the Master for his conversion. The brother here doesn't read as much & is much slower learning but the Spirit can open his heart, too. The cook has never seen his bride-to-be & according to old Chinese custom won't till after the wedding. She's just fifteen & he's 26. The plan is the old mother's as she needs a younger girl to help with the work. He will not bring her here but she'll stay with the mother. Oh! the new bride's life beginning with a strange family, strange husband & all isn't so easy - especially in the old order the daughter-in-law isn't treated

51.

always the most kindly. I will be



very interesting to know when he returns about it.

He told me one night a lot of the customs

at their home about weddings. The place

may differ very much from those of a place not fifty miles away. So I truly fear the statement "In China so + so is done". One

must specify where. There the bride must prepare before the wedding shoes for him + all his family. However when the family receives them they give her money. Miss Koo here last week bought a hat + pair of shoes for her "to-be". It struck me so funny.

The first rite cook said, I should just sit on the Kang + by na means extinguish the light (for fear of evil spirits) + they would not speak to each other. There is a superstition that if bride speaks first the first child will be a girl + vs. versa -

The first words, or especially those spoken that rite have a certain meaning on the fortunes of the future! Some one must listen at the window - proverb says if maunders not the devils will - so a relative or friend listens all night. If there's no man they may put up a long broom which is used to sweep courtyards + that is all right.

He will have to use the old ceremony but he said the place in which he had to worship Heaven and earth and Kowtow to family ancestors

etc did just now wow! If there were archbishops there or christians they could help ^{to do} otherwise but he's never seen a christian ceremony even so he can do nothing else.

Wed. nite - Julia asked us to come to her house for "shisaki" the famous Japanese dish - However this was Chinese. except for a few ingredients. They use a little charcoal stove with a little pan which fits it + put all the raw things on table + then cook it at the table. We had rice Chinese cabbage in it, onions, chicken livers, + gizzards, meat, two kinds of fish, fen tiao (clear noodles) put in all in + cook it in chicken fat + broth add sugar + salty sauce - when all done break an egg in + cook it in that rice soup. Eat on dry boiled rice. You could do it on electric stove just as well. Better try it. It was delicious but not as good as Chinese food. See! I'm turned Chinese all right!

Have been going to printing office several times after 5 when I stop study to see about the reports. I hope to have one to put in this as they said they'd have them finished to send up tomorrow. Miss Liu can mail it Tues. as she goes to Shanghai. How do you like my new envelopes, I got them for $1\frac{1}{5}$ ¢ each of our Mex. money a little over $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ gold. Got 500 they look more expensive but are cheaper than buying the others. These are a bit big but others will be smaller. These weeks I've surely been busy writing - so much business piled up - then I spend all ^{of} day writing a very particular letter to Elder Hark

6. & then another day getting it into Chenier
& then teacher spent
hours doing it
over. Please pray
for that church
that they will
confess sin. I
can't say more.
This report has taken



so much time. But I hope to get all 200 off
before I go again for my month Feb. 22.

Besides my exams.
These days have been so cold! I'm surely
grateful for my stove - & my fur lined
Chinese garment. I just love it - so wear
it even here! in the house.

I have had two such wonderful answers to
prayer. This week. One in life of the Pastor
who was at Peiding & the other over my
country medical work! I've so wanted to
be able to ask a Dr. for help or someone. Well,
within a station up the ^{R.}road is it peace-
ful yet & a special fighting (because of Japanese
interference) has brought some missionaries
here till after Chinese New Year. Dr. Chalfont,
who is fine says he'll not only tell me all I
want to know - & how to treat what I know
of that I'll meet but also buy drugs for
me because he can get a big discount.
See, our station has no medical funds be-
cause we've no doctor or hospital & medical
work here. So I have to buy them myself -
out of tithe etc. - but to not enuf. Some
Christmas gifts of money I'll put in to
that & so I'll be able to get some supplies
I won't go into it too extensively but a certain
degree pay & it is vastly worth while!! I am sure
it is & if for no other reason it surely does

relieve my heart of the awful burden &
awful need if I can help a wee bit even.
I'm so happy he will help me! He's so
willing - & I just saw no other chance to
get this help I so need. I may study medicine
a year or furlough. Remember Warren wanted
me too!

Dearest ones it is late & I must get up early
in the morning to get the mail & cook
all started on time. If we don't go on the dot
then I never get my work all in! Miss
Linn & I were just saying it is almost easier
to do for oneself than to try to teach &
manage another - matter dearest & all
- nity nite.

~~I'll mail this now~~

Love,
Dora



121 Yang Road
Illud. Eve.
February 14, 1929

Dearest Loved Ones:

I have just finished a good supper which I got myself & soap order is still on my hands from working duties. See, I'm learning more & more what I've heard so many times just the fact that you have a coat to help don't always mean the bed of roses it sounds. My latest escapades - in house keeping! I think I told you when I bring went home to get married & his brother is here to substitute - He has caused me a bit of trouble by not sleeping here & the way he just doesn't hug the truth closely - he's not a Christian so one can't expect too much. - yesterday he developed what seems to be dysentery & so I haven't had him in the Kitchen - we don't want to get it. He's better tonight tho so maybe will be well & we can get him fumigated enough to be safe! The amah just came in so tired - the other lady she does half time for, seems to expect a day's work in one half day so she's not happy! Well, I cheered ^{her} up the best I could & gave her some little sweet flour balls with sesame seeds inside - a new year's special food & so maybe she will be a bit comforted. I'm so proud of myself I learned

and it how to make the famous new year
little meat dumplings - the ^{was} ~~anal~~ fixing
them this a.m. for my supper so I went to help
her. It was fun! I must learn to do these
delicious things for you dear ones when I
come home. So - - - life - - goes on +
servants + house help to add variety
at least - Especially the house - the
week on Friday a.m. 5 o'clock I heard a
second Niagara Falls + dashed out to
discover it - rushing to all my faucets to
find them in lock & calm! Then to
Miss Chow's little wash room where there
was anything but calm - a pipe had
burst + a stream just pouring into the
room below - as white makes things so
vivid + more awful - I had a vision of whole
room afloat + all the plaster falling
- but day light (Ray's maxim of
adding an element of time helped) re-
vealed damage much less than I feared -
so we persuaded a plumber to come to
stop it up - He wouldn't consider fixing
it because it was the day before New
Year's + that time is just precious as a
holiday. We'd count it doubly so if we
never had a Sunday or holiday or any
time off except 2 or 3 days at New Year's
we'd still get fixed eventually -
I think I told you of my burned beans
escape - waking at 10 with house full
of smoke + such an odor! I was sure
we were all in flames but anal had
forgotten her pan of beans - we

3) Ventilated for days to remove perfume I
I'm not sure what next will
happen in my "dummy cell".



I feel like I'm getting
a letter slower -
three from your
mamie Loney

this week - One of Dec. 2. I don't understand
how many boxes you've sent. I thought you
said some time ago you'd sent one of house
hold things - I thought it never come - or was it
you said you would send it & this is it.
you mention with Bible pictures. You asked
to tell you whether cords are worth while. I'll
tell you. You know the last we gave I felt
weren't hardly - hadn't gotten verse on them &
they were rather old pictures & they thanked so
profusely for them - Miss C. told them they'd
come from America etc. well I felt they
weren't worth all that - I'll see. You said
about duty - Feb. 1. we went under tariff
autonomy & there will be duty now I expect
many things 45%. I hope you marked the
things as old & used. Anyway it will be
fine. I shall be very glad indeed to have
the household effects - everytime I go to
Ketchikan to cook - which isn't enough to stir me
to buy - I feel how you'd think my supply so
short - but why worry it is enough for our
needs. I thank you so for going to so much
trouble & getting me things. You're such a
sweet family! You'll be relieved that I have
a sugar bowl & cream pitcher now & a salt
& pepper shaker!! Am so glad to hear that
Aula is better & getting stronger - able to work some

It is a sure proof! I am grateful I am to
the master for his love to us. My ^{Winfield}
must have gained to be overwrought!

I am sorry about Uncle Rob. but he's happier
for. I expect Aunt Allie will live with
Berrie. You said you never see the Board
letters! Mother I always send you every-
thing & often for you to send Mrs. Higgins
those go to the Board - do you mean the
one the Board mimeographed about living
in a Chinese home, summer vacation & all -
That's the only possible one you've missed
& they surely sent the Roseburg church one
as they send to all supporters! I'll send
Lee a report of country trips. They only
did 100 so again they'll have to be passed
on by some. Hope to get them out before
I go out next week - The second page was
help up by New Year holidays. That's
funny - mumsie backsliding!! I'll write
Aunt Callie, I have had one letter 'from her

sorry!
You said you'd sent my letter to Lee about a
victrola. I hope he's not bought one as I
fear the shipping & duty on one coming out.
Erva & Lydia bought an English portable
Decca here which has the orthophone horn -
or whatever one calls it which is so fine
not ratty or noisy but wonderful. For
75 Mex about \$35 you'd get it
I've been sitting on a fence literally in
decision everytime I hear that one. I
would love so to have one, I first

5. decide no, I'll put this present money
toward getting one later
& then I decide no I'll
buy medicine to take
to the country or
help a student
in school. Then



when I hear it again I decide all over to
try to get one - I could take it with me -
I didn't realize how hungry I was for music
till after this trip - I've just longed to
hear some - since my piano didn't
materialize I couldn't play! We went
one day to Flossie's to tea & hear a good
 trio play a few pieces & at it was so
good! was going again today but had to
put in hours to prepare for exam instead.
Really, in one way, I feel it is a useless luxury
to buy one & then again I live ~~rather~~ an abnormal
life by myself a good bit & in country away
from everything - I might indulge in a bit
of "music box" just to balance off a bit!
I shan't buy before I return I'm sure from this
next trip which will be the last of March.
Then I can tell better about it!
How wonderful to have a visit with Harry & Anna &
put their Christmas letter stupidly in the wrong
letter & it returned to me. Will try to write again.
I hope all the ~~fell's~~ are over at Leo's & Warren's!
So glad sweetest Mumsie, you liked your
beads! Mrs. Devore wrote how well she liked
hers. Its nice folks were all so nice to
you to send flowers & food etc!!
Well, I've scratched my foot for tonight. I must
get to bed & up early - to face two exams
whoopie!! - nite Irene.

6Sunrite Feb. 17. Dearest mamma, as I write you're
just getting up + having a birthday! Happy
birthday dearest mother mine! Your sixty-
third birthday! Many happy returns of the
day! I didn't get this letter off as the last
few days have just slept, eaten, studied +
had examinations! Ah! they are over for a few
months now + I'm glad! Friday on Sun Yat
Sen's book "People's Principles". Well! it was
quite formidable! Mr. Davis + Mr. Candler
both came at once + asked me questions +
etc. Mr. Davis was very nice on Saturday
when it was all over he said, "You're doing
very well indeed." That was a whole lot
coming from him! I felt better. Well,
I just thank the Master for His help + love
+ grace. Sat. the exam. was on Hebrews,
Rural! Wau King has just come back -
called at the window for me to let him in
+ I did it gladly! I surely am glad for
his brother these three or four days he
had dysentery + I was afraid to have him in
the kitchen so I fixed his medicine + food
to take to him + then for two days have
had my meals at Mr. Candler's. It was
too much to do it myself while I was
studying + etc. His brother hasn't been
exactly square so I am thoroughly glad
for my nice cook to be back - especially as
these days will be very busy getting off
to the country. I ^{like} a glad report of preaching
to his family - who were none of them Christians
He said his old mother felt there must be

7]. some truth in the new religion because he
was so nice to her + knew
how to be respectful + to
treat her well! He
said there were



EME

about twenty who
studied in the
two places. + they
bowed to him +
called him "teacher"

which is going some for a cook who has
never been to school. A teacher in China
in the highest class + he said he'd talked
to a number on the way there + back + hopes
there could be a church in his home. I dis-
covered thought they could get or give - I did
not ask which - some land + have a church.
That's of course to see later. I think it is in
the Lutheran field. He wants me to go some-
time to help preach there. His enthusiasm is
so fine. It pleases me greatly - that he is
so in earnest. I must be careful now not
to spoil him - because I surely am glad his
back.

Mother's box came on Saturday. It was pretty
badly torn on corners but I think all of the
contents were in it. I thank you so much!! Are
you sure you didn't need any of the things -
It made me almost homesick to see those
familiar things come out - the round cake
pan - the napkins etc. You surprised me
with a table cloth - I really could do with
what I had - + you sent me the nicest
napkin didn't you. That bed spread is very
fine. It will be really worked + it's the
right width - because most places too
exp, away for summer only have a single bed
+ it fits what I'm sleeping on - well? I

8] won't use it now till I return from this
month's trip — my! you sent such a lot
thank you very much! I hope box #2 will
come soon before I go. This had no duty on
it & I was surprised. Mrs. Chandler's boy brought
it up for me as I was so busy Sat. a.m.
Then there are two recent letters — that will
be fine if Wren & De Etta go West. It is sure
I expect & am so happy for them too —. That
was funny to me — for you to give the report of
"all about me" to the missionary society — I am
glad if they are satisfied — but I'm far from
satisfied with myself dearest. I expect they
do feel that I'm just a "name" — not a person!
Bless Harry & Anna — How I'd love to see them!
So bad about the dress shrinking mummy but
expect painter's wife will be glad! Your meetings
are on now I expect — pray they'll be successful!
Yours of Jan. 23 came. Bless your dear heart, I am
sorry letters have been so long^{going} for a post
this year but seems unavoidable. I'll try
to write after. You're awfully sweet about
it dear! Mummy darling, the mother will be
in this will about your coming & will be happy
in it. If I were home all the time I'd be feeling
it more urgent about your coming but since
not — well will leave it with him.
I'm sending you a report & one to send one to
Mrs. Higgins & send the pictures on after you've
used them there if you want to. I want my
supporters to see them first. At last this is
off^{the printing office} but I've these 100 letters to get off there
two days. Besides preparing to go to the
country — Emma & Lydia went to the country
Friday & borrowed all my junk because
they had nothing suitable & they'd have just

9.



suffered terribly for it is still
cold out. Wind is piercing
the we've had a few
bright sunny days!

I was so glad
to let them have
them!! They'll get

back Wed. & we'll have to wash a few garments
& iron them Wed. nite & pack things up to
get off.

I've just gone thru this & it's very scrappy & so
"flighty" sounding from one subject to the
other. I failed to mention some articles
I think the red & white paper will be
very useful, I can use the paste too but hardly
think it worth while to mail next time -
as we can get Japanese paste here cheap enough.
Thanks tho - but no use to spend extra postage
again on it.

My! its eleven o'clock I must get to bed.
Tomorrow must get a medicine case made
for country - ah, Mr. Davies said I could
have some money for country medicine so
that will make it easier. I'm glad for
that, I think I told you of spending a
day with Dr. Chalfant getting advice &
prescriptions & how to use them etc -
I don't claim to be a Dr. in a day but
it can help I'm sure - - -

I just must close - nite - nite loved
ones. How I love you & thank Him
for you all - (I'm shivering terribly) up
till eleven o'clock, Love - love - I love

Station voted the other nite to ask again
for my definite permanent appointment
here - Will see? I don't say anything -

Tai chi chuang
March 3, 1929

My dearest loved ones:

You'll not recognize my address I know. But I am glad to be able to write from here. A postman comes every other day - have had a little mail twice - no foreign mail except papers since I came here on February 22. What a full week & busy & happy week it has been. I love it so much! Where shall I begin to recount the events. I can't even begin but I'll first visit a while.

Sunday eve. & I've just had my supper & my old friend lantern will keep me company for a visit! um at last I

3) wheat for ~~ideal~~ - I ~~even~~
came flour - they thought I
couldn't possibly want it ~~that~~
course, finally they offered
to use the flour + make
me nice steamed bread,
It was lovely + now I have
feasted on it! The man
who brought it was so sure
it couldn't be what I'd eat
that he insisted on my tast.
ing it in his presence before
he went happily home to
report liberally on "the very
queens of this foreign
girl" - The cook has lost
all of his "face" because I
insisted on his using black
flour to make the famous
little meat dumplings - all the
time he protested they'd not
be good! - but they were -

2) I have achieved what seemed
to be going to be impossible
for a time - gotten brown
bread + brown flour! You'd
be amazed at the queer being
I am in the eyes of all my
Chinese surrounding neighbors
- friends etc!! because it is
considered so coarse + plebeian
+ no one who can possibly
afford white would eat brown
+ naturally I supposed to be
a millionaire ² shouldn't eat
it. I have gotten rather
tired against rice + I was
just desperate - after much
talking + reiterating that
the brown was good for the
body, after ~~having~~ to explain
to whoever came near -
Miss Wang + I finally got
some folks to grind me
some flour + cracked

* Several who came in also
predicted failure — but I
won + ate them. The cook
eats white flour + as he
predicted several came +
remarked that he ate white
flour + ~~horror~~! — what was
I eating. This isn't exaggerat-
ed — really my attempt to
eat brown flour has had
quite a stir! similar to
what? I've won + eat my
brown buns with joy!!

We had the usual rush of
days in Isingtas — getting off-
because beside the details
of purchasing + preparation
I had a number of callers +
got off about 100 letters in
3 days! These reports, Cula,
I wish your plan were at
all possible — Sometimes
I wonder whether it is

5) worth the ~~big~~ ^{alter} + the answer
come of "used in this society +
nailed on to another friend
etc etc" + then I feel it is
worthwhile. I have had a
number such from those you
sent out, dearest ones! I told
you the station sent a request
for my permanent appointment
here — I had a talk with Mr.
D. + later with Mrs. D. in which
I did not commit myself but
expressed my appreciation
for all their help + friendli-
ness etc. + they were so
pleased. ~~That~~ morning I left
I went to tell them goodbye
+ they were so nice. Then Mrs. D.
came over herself in a few minutes
to tell me when I came in that
I must go there to have a hot
bath + meals till I was
all straightened up. It
surely was sweet of her!

7] to see me off. A ^{friend} friend was
on the train so I had a good
visit with her - off we got
in a crowd of folks - with our
baskets, guitars & red tables,
supplies for a month - This
time I have a lovely little box
for medicine, with two little
drawers at top & place for the
tall bottles. Mr. Si, my teacher,
designed it & had a carpenter
fix it. It is just a joy to me!

We got all our luggage off &
I inquired who had come to
meet us - see, Mr. Si came on
a day early because Eva had all
of my equipment on his country
trip & didn't get back so I had
to wait over a day longer.
They had sent a horse & a child

6. I'll see how much I'll
accept maybe go for a meal
but if Mrs. W. had to plan
for it, it would upset her
terribly - so I'll probably
not - but I appreciate
her thoughtfulness. She said
if I'd consent to stay that
something more convenient
must be fixed for me
about living. But that
I don't know, - what could
be different. It is just the
problem, & not too easy a
ways of a single person
& families. It has its advan-
tages as I am the only single
one & its disadvantages
but that is not worrying
me. She probably thinks of
it more than I! Came
this time by train an hour
Eva & Lydia came down

8) borrow ^{to} meet me. After I
inquired I ^{had} found the man + all
our junk piled on the wheelbarrow
pulled by a little mule +
pushed by two men — we
went into a wee little inn
+ ate some meat dumplings
for 35 coppers + ascended to
my seat on the horse. My bed
roll on the saddle made a
nice soft seat but covered
up the stirrups so it
proved a rather tiring ride,
after a pl. of 30 li or ten miles
the owner of the horse walking
beside to lead the horse —
Well, we went thru ~~new~~
little villages — once I got
off to rest + talked to the
people who gathered — they
had never heard the story

9, I gave them some gospels + talked
to them + then on again we went.
Came at last to a walled town
of several hundred families
with new brick gateways +
new gates (because of the
banditry of last year). I
never was so weary I believe.
Miss Chow + Miss Wang were
having class but I went with
Miss W. to see about living
quarters — + decided to rest
at their rooms a while. They
fixed me eggs + I slept + then
had noodles with them for
supper. In the meantime the
cook had fixed the kitchen
part of the two rooms which
I had. Then he helped me
unpack my bed + I slept!!

11) rate so that made me have to prepare for a service every other day - Then they gave me a Bible class to teach - this was my first attempt at all in this line. I have to be examined on matt. next so I studied it - to keep ahead of them + prepare for them, maybe you think that didn't take work - every day!! Then besides I had the class in singing for the church groups - with all the sick who came to come for visits! It has been wonderful! I've loved every minute of it + it has been good for me to have to do so much but

10) They had six o'clock prayer meeting but miss claw said for me to sleep - I did actually all day! Except when a few came in + waked me. + cook had to wake me to eat a bit + so I slept!! My busy days + exams in Lexington + horseback ride all combined made me just need a sleep - so I took it. Sunday I got up for church + by means of a nap in p.m. + bed early - I rejuvenated for about such a strenuous two weeks. This will help you to understand why I haven't been able to write letters - in fact now is more 24 + this letter has been all this month waiting. The four of us took morning prayer meeting + church portion in

12] it has taken all my time & daily strength so I had no time for letters at all. Then we came here a mile away & it has been even more strenuous as my Bible class met twice a day & there has been just throngs of sick folks so you see why I can't even write my diary & weeks you've been neglected, - but dearest ones in my heart & prayers you've not been forgotten. I hardly know how to begin to recount the days events!

Those first few days at Tai shih chuang were just a continuous snow! Those were the last days of the new year holidays & people were free to come - & come they did

13] from miles around. and then there were 5 days of a theatrical performance a block away. They built a high stage & men ~~acted~~ in old costumes of men & women sang in high nasal falsetto old chinese stories to the accompaniment of chinese musical instruments. The bad of that is that the real motive of the thing is to draw crowds to the gambling games at the side. The theatrical is free. Crowds came from all around & many many came to the church to listen! The first Monday I was there was a festival on at all the crowds I wrote of crowds at Yün to Kew but they were nothing in comparison. The church was full & overflowing so we got the men into the

5] away after they had listen-
ed - it was very evident that
they nearly wanted to break. They
lined the walls + watched as
we came in another gate they
beat us back to the church!
Eventually they had the meet-
ing. Early that day before I was up
~~many~~ people came - + all day was fairly
eaten alive by hundreds of pairs
of eyes, old, young, men + women -
some in half fear, others in wonder
+ others in open curiosity others
with a friendliness of wishing
to get acquainted. After a visit
with a Mrs. Hsieh from Pei Sing -
I fixed a boy's eyes + gave away
other medicines. Elder Wang
tried to clear the room so I
could rest - but they kept

14] school where Mr. Li was +
finally Miss Chow + I went out
side of the courtyard + I sat
on a low mud wall with my
guitar + sang three ^{but complete} hundred
times if once - a simple, gospel
chorus, + Miss Chow spoke
This was 1½ or 2 hrs. + then we
got a bit of rest. That day
all I needed to do was to
appear to be surrounded +
just to be looked at!! -
I moved the Throng moved,
They tried to have a welcome
meeting for us but such
great crowds made it
almost impossible. Miss
+ I decided to walk outside
the wall to draw crowd

16] The host in got a taste of
cheese & prunes - which they
carefully tucked up sleeves or
in pockets - to take home for
a father, or mother to taste -
I love the loving consideration
by so many for the aged!
After a little rest Miss Wang
& I went to the saute room where
she started me to talking. &
soon found myself manoeuvred onto
a table with a sea of faces be-
fore me - loving & kind all round
& Miss Wang no place in sight.
I just sang & sang & more
crowded in. Mr. Li came to
my rescue & said we'd have to
go to the courtyard, - after this
Miss Chaw & I went outside the
city wall. The welcome meeting
was rich - one the leader's table